

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 ISO-00 /080 W

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R 070600Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0006

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, EG

SUBJECT: ALEXANDRIA PORT EXPANSION

REF: A. A-013 - AUGUST 27, 1974 (NOTAL)

B. A-038 - AUGUST 8, 1975 (NOTAL)

C. CAIRO 11564 (NOTAL)

1. AMBITIOUS ALEXANDRIA PORT EXPANSION PLANS (REPAIRS) SEEM TO BE MOVING AHEAD, THOUGH SOMEWHAT MORE SLOWLY THAN IMPATIENT LOCAL OFFICIALS HAD HOPED. ACCORDING TO DR. YOUNES OMAR, DIRECTOR OF ALEXANDRIA PORT AUTHORITY, THIRTY-THREE ENGINEERING FIRMS ARE COMPETING FOR THREE MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT TO FINALIZE ENGINEERING STUDIES AND TO DESIGN NEW DIKHEILA EXTENSION OF HARBOR.

2. TEN AMERICAN COMPANIES ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION WITH OTHERS

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FROM BRITAIN, FRANCE, WEST GERMANY AND JAPAN. SHORT LIST OF

THREE OR FOUR SHOULD BE READY JAN. 10, WITH FINAL CHOICE BY FEB. 1.

3. OMAR AND COLLEAGUES LEAVE LATER THIS MONTH FOR WASHINGTON TO SIGN \$93.5 MILLION IBRD LOAN AGREEMENT. OMAR REMARKED WITH SLIGHT DEGREE OF IRRITATION THAT "IBRD TAKES A YEAR TO DO JOB THAT SHOULD TAKE A MONTH."

4. HE CONFIRMED THAT FOUNDATION ENGINEERING FOR BRAZILIAN-JAPANESE SPONGE IRON PLANT, KEY ELEMENT IN ECONOMIC JUSTIFICATION FOR DIKHEILA EXTENSION, IS PROGRESSING (REFTEL) BUT AGAIN ON EXTENDED TIME FRAME THAT DOES NOT FORESEE ENTRY INTO OPERATION UNTIL 1980. DIKHEILA HARBOR AS WORKING, TWENTY-MILLION TON CAPACITY ADJUNCT TO PRESENT THIRTEEN MILLION TON CAPACITY ALEXANDRIA HARBOR WILL NOT BE FULLY OPERATIVE BEFORE 1985.

5. MEANWHILE CEMENT BLOCK FOUNDATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED TO CREATE ADDITIONAL DEEP WATER PIER FRONTAGE FOR GENERAL CARGOES AT PRESENT BERTHS 27 AND 28 (NOW SUITABLE ONLY FOR SHALLOW DRAFT COASTERS AND BARGES) AND FILL IS PROCEEDING RAPIDLY. OMAR EXPECTS HAVE AREA SURFACED AND IN USE ABOUT MID-FEBRUARY.

6. PORT AUTHORITY WILL BE ASKING FOR BIDS IN NEAR FUTURE FOR CREATION CONTAINER-CARGO PIER BY FILLING AREA NORTH OF PRESENT MILITARY QUAY BERTHS 48 AND 49, ALONG EAST SIDE OF COAL QUAY AT EXISTING BERTHS 50 THROUGH 54. NOTE: ALL QUAY AND BERTH DESIGNATIONS TAKEN FROM ALEXANDRIA HARBOR CHART HO 2553 (NO 56102).

7. OMAR ALREADY CONSULTING WITH LEADING AMERICAN CONTAINER CARGO SHIPPERS AND PORT SPECIALISTS BOTH FOR PROVIDING THIS NEW PIER WITH MOST MODERN CONTAINER-HANDLING EQUIPMENT AND FOR POSSIBLE LONG TERM CONTRACT TO BUILD AND MANAGE CONTAINER TERMINAL IN DIKHEILA EXTENSION.
CHASE

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